

REMARKS-ARGUMENTS

Claims 16-35 are pending in the application identified above. The Examiner has rejected claims 16-35 in the Final Office Action dated December 5, 2007 ("Final Office Action"). By this Amendment, Applicants have amended claims 16, 18, 24, and 26 to further clarify the invention. Support for the amendments may be found, for example, at paragraph [065]. Applicants submit that claims 16-35 are allowable over the cited prior art.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 16 and 19-35 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,745,712 ("Turpin") in view of U.S. Patent 6,597,381 ("Eskridge") and in further view of U.S. Patent 6,920,608 ("Davis"). The Examiner also rejected claims 17-18 as unpatentable over Turpin, in view of Eskridge, in further view of Davis, and in further view of U.S. Patent 6,389,434 ("Rivette"). Applicants hereby provide the following comments to these rejections.

In the present application, the cited prior art fails to teach or suggest all elements of the claims. For example, neither reference teaches a layout view for "the nodes in the logic view having an order that corresponds to structure information of the layout items in the layout view" as recited in Applicants' amended claims 16, 24, and 26. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 16-35 are allowable over the cited prior art.

Claims 16 and 19-34

Turpin discloses a system "for generating and using form data files that define: (a) a graphical image of a goal oriented form for display on a monitor; and (b) a graphical image of at least one decision tree." See Turpin, col. 2:33-37. As part of the

system, Turpin discloses a form tool which “operates much like a drawing package and displays forms as they are being defined.” Turpin, col. 17:46-48. Turpin discloses a view of a decision tree, but Turpin discloses that each of the decision trees corresponds to a single object on the form. For example, according to Turpin, Figure 15 discloses “the tree for ‘premium payment amount.’” See col. 17:1-9. As a further example, Figure 24 also discloses a decision tree for one object on the form, “Relationship to Insured.” See Figure 24. The remaining Figures and descriptions for decision trees further disclose using decision trees for single objects on a form. See, e.g., Figs. 30-32, 36-38, and 40. Accordingly, Turpin fails to teach or suggest “the nodes in the logic view having an order that corresponds to structure information of the layout items in the layout view” as recited in Applicants’ amended claims 16, 24, and 26.

Eskridge fails to cure this deficiency. Eskridge discloses a system and method for an automated optical inspection system. See Eskridge, col. 1:6-9. As part of the system and method disclosed in Eskridge, a graphical user interface may show a graphical display area. See Eskridge, col. 6:33-35. As described in Eskridge, the graphical user interface may include a display list area that “can provide a sortable textual and numerical listing of component names, the classification, value of each component, the type of component, the confidence value assigned to a defect classification, and the feeder from which the component came (if available).” Eskridge, col. 9:20-24.

The display list area, however, fails to correspond to the logic view recited in the Applicants’ claims. For example, unlike the logic view recited in Applicants’ pending claims, the display list area in Eskridge fails to show any type of logical relationship

between the different nodes. Further, although Eskridge discloses that the display list area can "display a reference number for each component that indicates where on the board the component is located," Eskridge fails to disclose that the components may be sorted according to their locations, nor does Eskridge disclose what a reference number consists of or how it can be used to sort. See Eskridge, col. 9:26-28. Accordingly, Eskridge fails to teach or suggest "the nodes in the logic view having an order that corresponds to structure information of the layout items in the layout view" as recited in Applicants amended claims 16, 24, and 26.

Finally, Davis fails to correct the deficiencies of both Eskridge and Turpin. Davis discloses "a computer markup language for use in a data browser and manipulator." See Davis, col. 1:28-29. This markup language, identified as RDML in Davis, includes an editor that "permits users to edit the actual elements and attributes of an RDML, RMML, or RDSL document." See Davis, col. 19:27-29. Davis, however, fails to disclose that the editor displays a representation of a form, much less a layout view of a form that includes layout items.

Davis additionally includes a description of a data viewer that provides different views that may be used to view information in RDML documents. See Davis, col. 36:28-31. These views include "a chart view, which shows graphical charts and graphs of the data, . . . a tree view showing hierarchical representations of the line items[,] . . . a spreadsheet view which shows a data sheet similar to a spreadsheet, and a footnote view which shows the text of footnotes associated with RDML documents." See Davis, col. 36:31-40. None of these views in Davis, however, shows the layout of items in a form. Further, while Davis discloses a "tree view," Davis fails to disclose that the

position of items in the disclosed tree view correspond to the location of the items in a second view. *See, e.g.,* Davis, Figs. 12B, 14A. Accordingly, Davis fails to teach or suggest “the nodes in the logic view having an order that corresponds to structure information of the layout items in the layout view” as recited in Applicants’ amended claims 16, 24, and 26. For at least these reasons, Applicants submit that independent claims 16, 24, and 26 are allowable over the cited prior art. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections of and allow these claims.

Claims 19-23 and 31-32 depend from amended claim 16; claims 25 and 33 depend from amended claim 24; and claims 27-30 and 34-35 depend from amended claim 26. Accordingly, these claims are allowable over the cited prior art for at least the reasons cited above for amended claims 16, 24, and 26. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections of and allow these claims.

Claims 17-18

The Examiner rejected claims 17-18 as allegedly unpatentable over Turpin, in view of Eskridge, in view of Davis, and in further view of U.S. Patent 6,389,434 (“Rivette”). None of these cited references, however, teaches all elements of Applicants’ claims. For example, as discussed above, neither Turpin, Eskridge, nor Davis at least teaches “the nodes in the logic view having an order that corresponds to structure information of the layout items in the layout view” as recited in Applicants’ amended claim 16. Rivette fails to cure this deficiency.

Rivette discloses a system and method for annotating documents and other media. *See* Rivette, Abstract. According to Rivette, different views may be displayed in the disclosed system, including “a note centric view, an object centric view, a link centric

view, and a user-defined view.” See Rivette, col. 17:7-10. Of these views, the link view may be “useful for obtaining a high level display of the note grouping/note/sub-note hierarchy, and sub-note/data object portion linkage.” See Rivette, col. 19:10-12. As shown in Figure 29, these notes may also contain titles, such as “Sub-note A,” “Data Object A,” and “Note-grouping A.” This view, however, only shows the logical connection between notes and objects as opposed to their location on a form. In fact none of the views disclosed in Rivette displays a representation of the layout of a form. Accordingly, by not disclosing the representation of a form, Rivette fails at least to teach or suggest “the nodes in the logic view having an order that corresponds to structure information of the layout items in the layout view” as recited in Applicants’ amended claim 16. For at least these reasons, Applicants submit that independent claim 16 is allowable over the cited prior art.

Claims 17-18 depend from amended claim 16. Accordingly, these claims are allowable over the cited prior art for at least the reasons cited above for amended claim 16. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections of and allow these claims.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request that this Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 be entered by the Examiner, placing claims 16-35 in condition for allowance. Applicants submit that the proposed amendments of claims 16, 18, 24, and 26 do not raise new issues or necessitate the undertaking of any additional search of the art by the Examiner because all of the elements and their relationships claimed were either earlier claimed or inherent in the claims as examined. Therefore, this Amendment should allow for immediate action by the Examiner.

Furthermore, Applicants respectfully point out that the final action by the Examiner presented some new arguments as to the application of the art against Applicants' invention. It is respectfully submitted that the entering of the Amendment would allow the Applicants to reply to the final rejections and place the application in condition for allowance.

Finally, Applicants submit that the entry of the amendment would place the application in better form for appeal, should the Examiner dispute the patentability of the pending claims.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants submit that this claimed invention, as amended, is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious in view of the prior art references cited against this application. Applicants therefore request the entry of this Amendment, the Examiner's reconsideration and reexamination of the application, and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

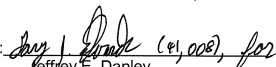
Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: February 5, 2008

By:

 (s), for
Jeffrey E. Danley
Reg. No. 57,228